

## VILLA LOSES 31 SOLDIERS IN FIRST BATTLE

DODD'S MEN SURPRISE AND  
OVERWHELM OUTLAWS IN  
INITIAL ENGAGEMENT.

### NARROWLY ESCAPES CAPTURE

Brilliant Exploit Sends Thrill Along  
Border—Question of Only Short  
Time Until Bandits Are  
Taken.

El Paso, Texas.—Four hundred American cavalrymen, under the command of Col. George A. Dodd, whirling down from the granite slopes of the great Continental Divide, have fallen like a thunderbolt on the main body of Francisco Villa's bandits at the San Geronimo ranch, scattering them and driving the bandit chief, wounded and crippled, to seek a hiding place in the mountains over which he has ruled for so many years. Villa was hurried from danger in a carriage.

The battle occurred March 29. The news of the brilliant exploit of the American troopers was flashed over the Mexican wires into Juarez, and sent a thrill along the border. For 17 hours the veteran Col. Dodd and his picked riders of the seventh and tenth cavalry drove down the valley of the Santa Maria River. At the end of a 35-mile ride they burst upon the unsuspecting Villista camp, where 600 bandits were celebrating the massacre of 172 Carranzistas at Guerrero. The bandits made a brief but hopeless stand before the fierce charge of Col. Dodd and his troopers. Then they broke and fled, leaving 31 dead on the field, including their commander, Gen. Eliseo Hernandez. Two machine guns, a number of horses, rifles, ammunition and equipment fell into the hands of the victors.

Among the known wounded is Pablo Lopez, Villa's lieutenant in the Columbus raid. The Americans' casualties were four privates wounded.

The American soldiers did not linger on the field of victory. For five hours they drove the enemy before them into the wilderness of mountain peak, desert and canyon, where roads or even trails are unknown and where a misstep means death to horse and rider. They halted only after the chase had led them 10 miles from the battlefield and the fugitives were scattered far and wide in little bands of half a dozen men each.

Villa's career has ended, his power has been broken. His death or capture is only a question of days, perhaps only hours—such is the conclusion reached here, as little by little the details of "Dodd's ride" seep across the border. It seems impossible that the crippled bandit can long remain hidden, even in the mountainous wastes in which he has sought refuge.

### BRITAIN AFTER NEW REVENUE

Chancellor McKenna's Budget Will  
Propose Several Additional Means  
of Taxation.

London, England.—It is understood that several new sources of revenue will be tapped by Reginald McKenna, the chancellor of the exchequer, in the budget to be introduced in the house of commons next Tuesday. The chancellor has made a thorough study of a method for reaching incomes which are below the present minimum limit. On the other hand, it is believed that the super tax on big incomes may be increased.

Theater receipts and advertisements of all kinds also may be subjected to taxation, but definite information as to just what steps will be taken will not be available until the chancellor addresses the house.

### U. S. SOLDIERS GET EXTRA PAY

Washington, D. C.—To the expense of the expedition in Mexico entailed by the purchase of eight biplanes and 2,000 cavalry horses, arrangements for which are under way, was added the extra pay for foreign service of troops actually in Mexico. It was the first pay day for the American forces since they crossed the border. Foreign service calls for 20 per cent for enlisted men and 18 per cent for officers. At the quartermaster general's office it was estimated that the additional pay would amount to about \$36,700 monthly.

**Erie's Gross Earnings Increase.**  
New York.—Gross earnings of the Erie Railroad during 1915 were \$65,438,720, an increase of \$6,776,494 over 1914, according to the annual report.

**Bomb Plot Demerits Fail.**  
San Francisco, Cal.—Judge Dooling overruled demerits to the bomb plot indictments against Franz Bopp, Baron R. H. von Schack, Baron George Wilhelm von Brincken and four others.

**Harding for Chairman.**  
Chicago.—The subcommittee on arrangements of the national Republican committee will meet here April 7. It was announced. It is reported that Senator Harding has been agreed upon for temporary chairman.

## CZAR'S COUSIN SIGHTSEEING IN NIKKO



Grand Duke George Mikhailovitch, the czar's envoy to the mikado, sightseeing in a rickshaw. When the czar was visiting Japan many years ago he was attacked by an assassin and it was the rickshaw boy who saved his life.

## JAPANESE LINER AGROUND NEGLECT CAUSE OF DEATH

FAST ON BAR 29 MILES FROM  
HONGKONG.

Chiyo Maru Carries 529 on Board—  
British Vessels Go to Her  
Assistance.

Shanghai, China.—The big trans-Pacific passenger steamship Chiyo Maru grounded in a fog on one of the Lema Islands, south of Hongkong.

Nine tugboats and launches from a British torpedo boat destroyer have gone to her assistance and are taking off her 299 passengers and 230 members of the crew from San Francisco and Manila.

The Chiyo Maru, owned by the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, Kaisha of Yokohama, is a vessel of 13,431 tons gross, is 558 feet long, 61 feet beam and was constructed in 1905 at Nagasaki. She left San Francisco on March 2 for Yokohama, arrived at Manila on March 13 and left that port for Hongkong.

San Francisco, California.—Officials of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha Steamship Co., received a cablegram from Hongkong stating that all of the Chiyo's passengers would be brought into Hongkong. It was indicated that all had been taken off. The scene of the accident is 29 miles from Hongkong.

### FINDS WAITE'S ROLL OF BILLS

Contains Only \$7,800, Instead of  
\$9,000—Embalmers Say He Did  
Not Count It.

New York, N. Y.—Buried under a tree at the extreme tip of Long Island, a detective found a roll of bills which Eugene Oliver Kane, the embalmmer, asserted was forced upon him by Dr. Arthur Warren Waite in an effort to induce him to swear there was arsenic in the embalming fluid used on the body of Waite's father-in-law, John E. Peck, of Grand Rapids, Mich., for whose murder the young dentist was indicted.

The roll which Waite told District Attorney Edward Swann contained \$9,000, totaled only \$7,800 when it was found by the detective.

Kane said he never counted the money while it was in his possession, and therefore did not know whether Waite's count was accurate.

### PRUSSIAN HOUSE IN DEBATE

Declaration Also Asks for Improve-  
ment in Measures Affecting  
Nourishment of People.

Berlin, Germany.—The Prussian house of lords is unable to share the government's views as expressed in the Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, which says that only the Reichstag is competent to discuss the empire's foreign affairs.

This declaration is set forth in a statement issued in behalf of both factions in the house. It mentions also the desire for an improvement in the measures affecting the nourishment of the people, and continues:

"It is also regretted that the execution of the censorship has been uniform everywhere, and especially that it has frequently limited, without adequate ground, discussion of war aims where patriotic sentiment demanded an expression of German might."

### National Realty Order.

New Orleans, La.—Henry P. Haas of Pittsburg, was elected president of the National Association of Real Estate Exchanges. Milwaukee probably will get the next meeting.

**\$1,000 Reward for Cashier.**  
Seattle, Wash.—A reward of \$1,000 is offered for the arrest of Oliver H. Cline, missing cashier of a local concern, whose books show defalcations of \$100,000.

**General Amnesty in Alsace.**  
Berlin.—A general amnesty proclamation applying to persons convicted before tribunals of Alsace and Lorraine, has been issued by Emperor William, the Overseas News Agency says.

**Inquiry Into Blast Which Killed 8.**  
Johnstown, Pa.—State mine inspectors began an investigation of the explosion in the mine of the Conemaugh Smokeless Coal Co., at Seward, which cost the lives of Superintendent John Waddell and seven miners.

### FIRST LOSS OF SOLDIER IN MEX. ICO DENOUNCED.

Father Says Son Was Carried 125  
Miles in Wagon Rather Than  
Hurt Carranza's Feelings.

El Paso, Texas.—Joseph W. Allison, of Dallas, father of Lieut. Joseph W. Allison, who died at the base hospital at the front in Mexico, has sent a telegram to United States Senator Culberson of Texas at Washington declaring that his son was a victim of criminal neglect. He says Lieut. Allison was brought 125 miles in a wagon while his fever was 106 and that this was done to keep from using the railroad to Juarez and "hurting Carranza's feelings."

Lieut. Allison was given a military funeral, preparatory to sending his body to West Point for burial. The hearse, surrounded by cavalry with drawn swords and preceded by the eighth cavalry band, wound slowly through the streets, which were lined by a great crowd.

### REGRET FALSE MEXICO TALES

Carranza's Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Appeals to United States Press  
to Act With Moderation.

Queretaro, Mexico.—In a statement given out here, Gen. Candido Aguilar, Mexican minister of foreign affairs, deplored the attitude of some sections of the press in the United States which, he declared, had published false stories in an effort to embarrass the Mexican and the Washington governments in arriving at a peaceful solution of the present situation.

The minister appealed to the press of the United States to act with moderation, and in the name of patriotism to aid the two governments in their earnest efforts to solve amicably the international incident. He said the Carranza forces were working vigorously on a carefully thought out plan which was expected to result in the capture of Villa.

### ROOSEVELT DINES WITH ROOT

Unexpected Development Leaves Pol-  
iticians Guessing—Preparedness,  
Not Politics, Discussed.

New York, N. Y.—Theodore Roosevelt had luncheon at the home of Robert Bacon with former Senator Elihu Root, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, who is a leading candidate for chairman of the coming Republican national convention, and Gen. Leonard Wood.

Announcement of this event, at which Col. Roosevelt and Mr. Root, who had much to do as chairman of the Republican convention in 1912 in defeating Col. Roosevelt's effort to capture the nomination, shook hands for the first time in nearly five years, left political leaders at a loss for words with which to express their varying emotions.

In a brief statement later, Col. Roosevelt said that preparedness and not politics was the subject discussed.

### British Steamer Disputed.

Halifax, N. S.—The British steamer Carly has been picked up, disabled at sea, by the steamer Pogoda, and is being towed to this port. The Carly sailed from Genoa Feb. 11.

**British Lost 20,424 in March.**  
London.—British casualties in March, as compiled from the published lists, amounted to 1,107 officers and 19,317 men.

**German Powder Plant Fire.**  
London.—A Reuter dispatch filed at Oldenzaal, Holland, says that many persons lost their lives in a fire in a powder factory at Troisdorf, near Cologne.

**Six Arrested for Drug Theft.**  
Peoria, Ill.—With five men and one woman under arrest, police here pressed to have in custody a band that for months has been robbing drug stores and physicians' offices of habit forming drugs.

**Five on Ship Believed to Be Lost.**  
Stonington, Me.—The schooner Mettine, which sailed from New York on Feb. 26 for this port with coal and machinery, was given up as lost. She was commanded by Capt. Huntley and carried four men.

## Tortured Mexican Nearly Ends Gen. Villa's Career

Man Breaks Away from Tormenters and Gets Bandit  
Leader by Throat—Five Are Shot to Death—Mem-  
bers of Same Family First Beaten and  
Hung Up by Necks.

Field Headquarters American Expedi-  
tionary Forces, Colonia Dublan, Chi-  
huahua, Mexico (By motor truck to  
Columbus, N. M.)—It has been learned  
here that Francisco Villa nearly lost  
his life a few days ago on the Corralitos ranch, a short distance from  
this place, where he tortured and put  
to death five Mexicans. One of the  
men leaped upon him and was strangling  
him when the Villista officers  
beat him senseless with the butts of  
their guns.

Mucio Polanco was the name of the Mexican who almost succeeded in ending Villa's career.

The murder of five members of the Polanco family was said to have been intended as a warning to other Mexicans against having dealings with Americans.

Had Record of Honesty.

Investigation showed that the Polanco family was involved with no political faction in Mexico, but that its members had a record of uniform honesty and reliability in dealing with the American managers of the Corralitos ranch, where they were born and reared.

When Villa, retreating from Columbus, arrived at Corralitos ranch he had a list of all the Polanco, six men,

hand locked about Villa's throat before he was beaten off.

All Were Tortured.

Next Villa ordered the five stood up beneath a huge archway, where he

\*\*\*\*\* COL. DODD IS HERO OF INDIAN WARS \*\*\*\*\*

Washington.—Unstinted praise was given in all quarters to Col. Dodd, the veteran cavalry officer who rode with his command continuously for 17 hours, covered 55 miles and then engaged in a five-hour fight. Col. Dodd is 64 years old and has been in the saddle practically ever since the troops were ordered to the border. He will retire on account of age next July.

Col. Dodd commanded the Third cavalry during the Apache outbreak in Arizona, fought during the Indian campaign in Oklahoma, in the Chicago riots in 1894 and during the Spanish-American war participated in the battle of San Juan and in many fights in the Philippines.

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## MARION LETCHER



Marion Letcher, United States consul at Chihuahua City, the center of Villista activity, would find difficulty in getting out in case of actual danger. Mr. Letcher, who is 34 years old, was a company commander in Cuba during the Spanish American war, and has been in the consular service in Mexico for more than five years.

kali dust made the roads so slippery that the trucks were driven with much difficulty.

Wireless communication with Casas Grandes continued hampered as a result of the static electricity present in

## AMBULANCE CORPS OFF FOR THE FRONT



Ambulance corps No. 3 leaving Columbus, N. M., for the scene of operations in Mexico.

the mother and two daughters. He seized the men and hunted for the daughters, but the young women had been hidden so well that he never found them.

To five of the men—Gregorio and his two sons and Mucio and his one son—Villa said:

"I am going to kill you because you are too Americanized. You are Gringo lovers."

But, instead of killing them outright, villa had them partly stripped and then beaten with the flat sides of heavy swords. Mucio Polanco broke away from his captors and got one

told them he would hang them. Ropes were placed about their necks and they were jerked into the air, but were not permitted to die. Just when loss of consciousness was approaching they would be lowered to earth with demands that they reveal the hiding places of the horses said to be on the ranch. There were no horses so far as investigation had disclosed.

The prisoners also were offered their lives if the would tell where money was hidden or point out valuable documents.

After several mock hangings, Villa ordered the five men taken into the garden, where each one was shot five times.

To the residents of the ranch, all Mexicans, Villa said:

"You may bury them or not, as you please."

All in One Grave

They were all buried in one grave after Villa left.

Before going Villa led one male member of the family, Gregorio, Jr., 21 years old, whose life had been spared, back to the young man's mother and to her he said:

"I am going to leave you this one son to support you. You ought to thank me for leaving him."

Next the bandit imprisoned each of the workmen on the ranch, placing them in separate rooms. When he had them all locked up and all terrified he went to each one in turn, warning him in these words:

"I am coming back and if I don't return someone else will come in my place. Whoever comes will kill anyone here whom he finds working for Americans."

**BOGGY ROADS DELAY MOTOR TRUCK TRAINS**

Columbus, N. M.—Boggy roads, covered in places with pools of water, delayed the operations of the motor truck line between Columbus and the advanced field base at Casas Grandes. A truck train which left here was reported to only have reached Gibson's Line ranch, 55 miles out.

A drizzling rain on the powdery altitude is that it enables the planes to travel with fairly light loads from one station to the next.

It also serves in part to overcome the problem of altitude which the aviators have faced, by lightening the load of fuel. At present the machines perform messenger service, carry mail and occasionally supplies. One of them took a small hand mirror more than 100 miles for important work, probably signalling. It was carried along with a bushel basket full of emergency supplies.

All this preparation by the army

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the atmosphere. Consequently, details of the engagement in the Guerrero district, in which a Villa force of 300 was defeated with heavy losses, were still lacking. Efforts were being made to use the field telegraph line, which now extends to Casas Grandes, and the possibility of extending it to Namiquipa was under consideration.

\*\*\*\*\* PLEASANT TIME IS HAD BY ALL AT CAVALRY CABARET IN MEXICO \*\*\*\*\*

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